mines at Jaduguda, Bhatin, Narwapahar, Turamdih and Banduhurang in the Singhbhum (East) district, Jharkhand State.

(b) The details of funds released for mining uranium are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 2004-2005 | Rs. 135.50 crores |
| 2005-2006 | Rs. 57.05 crores |
| 2006-2007 | Rs. 21.705 crores |

It is not public interest to disclose the quantum of uranium explored mine wise.

**Uranium reserves**

2175. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of uranium reserves in the country;

(b) the amount of uranium processed annually in Jharkhand;

(c) what happens to the residual products; give details of its disposal;

(d) the other locations in the country where uranium is processed; and

(e) the quantum of uranium processed in each of the locations and disposal of waste therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration & Research (AMD), a constituent unit of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has so far established about 1,07,268 tonnes of in-situ uranium ($U_3O_8$) resources.

(b) It is not in public interest to disclose information on the quantity of uranium processed in the country.

(c) After processing of ore and extraction of uranium and other by-products, the residual products are neutralized and separated into to size fractions, the sand fractions (about 40% of the residual product) are sent to underground mines for back filling in the form of slurry. The slime fractions are stored in a well engineered impoundment facility — called tailing pond.

(d) Uranium ore is not processed in other locations in the country.

(e) Does not arise.

**Coal availability**

2176. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal availability would affect power generation and other industries;

(b) whether, it is a fact that Government imported 12 million tons of coal in 2004-05 and 22 million tons of coal in 2005-06;

(c) the estimates of coal imports in 2006-07 and the probable imports in 2007-08;

(d) the production bottlenecks at coal mines; and

(e) the steps proposed to increase coal production in 2007-08 in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARINARAYAN RAO): (a) The Working Group Report on Coal and Lignite for 11th Plan has envisaged the demand of coal for various power generation and other industries in the terminal year of 11th Plan (2011-12) would be to the tune of 731.00 Million tonnes and the total indigenous availability of coal would be about 680.00 Million tonnes, thus, a gap of about 51 MT consisting of 41 MT of coking coal and 10 MT of non-coking coal has been estimated, which is likely to be met by imports.

(b) The details of imports during 2004-05 and 2005-06 by various consumers is given below:—

(figures in million tonnes)

| | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
|---|---|---|
| Coking Coal | 16.93 | 16.89 |
| Non-coking Coal | 12.03 | 21.70 |
| Coke | 2.84 | 2.62 |
| Total import | 31.80 | 41.21 |

(c) The total import by various consumers during 2006-07 was 48.80 million tonnes and as per available information, during 2007-08, till September, 2007 the total import by various consumers was about 26 million tonnes.

(d)Major production bottlenecks at coal mines of Coal India Limited (CIL) are as follows:

(i) Problems of Land acquisition and physical possession for mining & rehabilitation of People Affected by Project (PAP).

(ii) Mismatch between developments of coal projects *vis-a-vis* transport facilities available.

(iii) Procedural delay in Environmental Management Plan (EMP) & Forest Land Clearance.

(iv) Law and Order disturbances in coalfields areas.

(e) The following steps have been taken by Coal India Limited to increase production during 2007-08:—

(i)Procurement action has been initiated for high capacity shovel and dumpers in opencast mines.

(ii) Locations have been identified for mechanization in underground mines.

(iii) Standard Notice Inviting Tenders (NITs) are being prepared to avoid delay in finalization of tenders for procurement of equipments and major development activities.

(iv) 18 projects have been approved in 2007-08 (till February, 2008), for an ultimate capacity increase of 66.36 million tonnes per year.

**Markets stakes of BSNL**

†2177. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total percentage of market stake of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) at present;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.